

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully considered the July 26, 2005 Office Action regarding the above-identified application. Applicants are presenting the claim amendments above and these remarks in a bona fide effort to address all issues raised in that Action. It is believed that this case is in condition for allowance, and prompt favorable reconsideration is solicited.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 13-16. Claims 13-16 are amended somewhat, to make minor grammatical improvements. It is believed that the revisions above do not alter the scope of claims 13-16, therefore those claims should be in condition for allowance.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 8, 11, 12 and 17 would be allowable if recast in independent form. By amendments above, Applicants have recast each of claims 8, 11, 12 and 17 in independent form, by incorporating the language of the previous independent claim, and where appropriate, by incorporating the language of former intervening claims. Additionally, these newly independent claims have been revised somewhat, to make minor grammatical improvements. It is believed that the grammatical revisions above do not alter the scope of independent claims 8, 11, 12 and 17 from the scope of the original dependent versions thereof. Hence, claims 8, 11, 12 and 17 also should be in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-7, 9 and 10 were rejected as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103. Claims 1-7, 9 and 10 have been cancelled, without prejudice of disclaimer. The 103 rejection therefore should be moot.

Claims 8, 11 and 12-17 are pending in this application. All of those claims should be allowable as indicated by the Examiner.

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It is believed that this response addresses all issues raised in the Action. However, if any further issue should arise that may be addressed in an interview or by an Examiner's amendment, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Applicants' representative at the number shown below.

To the extent necessary, if any, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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